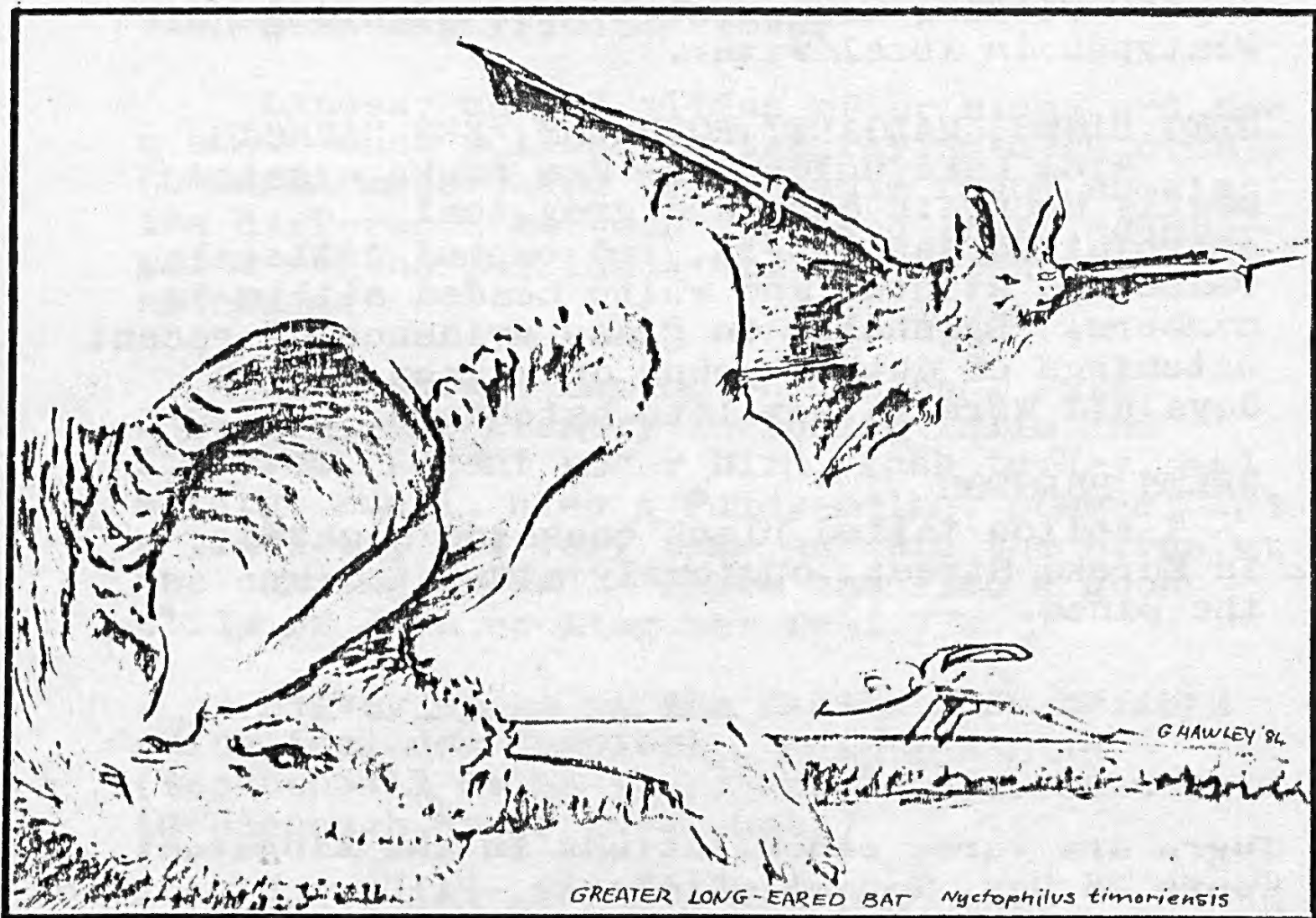


Field Naturalists Club of Ballarat

APRIL, 1984

EXCURSION - NEWS SHEET

Meeting	13th April-	"Bats" Speaker: Dr. W. Holsworth
Meeting	4th May-	"The Local Habitat and Geology" Speaker: Mr. P. Day
Excursion	15th April-	"You Yangs" Speaker: Mr. L. Fink
Excursion	6th May-	"Local Geology" Speaker: Mr. P. Day



GREATER LONG-EARED BAT *Nyctophilus timoriensis*

President: Miss H Burgess 312210
Secretary: Miss J Binns 323670
Treasurer: Mrs F Williamson 327631
Editors: Mr G Binns 323670
Mr L Fink 052 861319

Meetings, as specified, are held in the Art
Building of the School of Mines and Industries,
Lydiard Street South, Ballarat, commencing 7.30pm.
EXCURSIONS, AS SPECIFIED, COMMENCE FROM
CROCKERS, Cnr. STURT and ARMSTRONG STREETS,
BALLARAT. AT 9.30 am FOR FULL DAY OUTINGS.
OR AT 1.30 pm FOR HALF DAY

REPORTS MARCH MEETING

KEN HAMMOND

Bittern Lagoon, the present water level low, but vegetation heavy. Wally Coleman has reported spotted Grake, and suggests that consideration should be given to deepening of the lagoon in the new hide. Swamp Harrier and Little Eagle were also sighted.

LYNDSAY FINK

Noted that most duck have moved North but an estimated 50,000 grey teal reported in Western District.

FRANK HARRAP

Noted that local fishermen have reported a poor fishing season, but more sightings of Platypus in local water.

GREG BINNS, MARGARET ROTHERAM, KEN HAMMOND

From Lake Goldsmith- Few ducks sighted : - mostly Mountain duck and grey teal, sharptailed sandpipers, red capped dotterels, rednecked stints, and white headed stilts in numbers. Eggshells in grass evidence of recent hatchings of ducks, young ducklings 8 - 10 days old were rather late hatchings.

HELEN BURGESS

Yellow tailed black cockatoo sighted in Eureka Street, obviously attracted by the pines.

STOP PRESS...

There are three cancellations in the Kingston's Tours 28 Day Tanami -Kimberly -Pilbara Expedition for Field Naturalists, departing Stawell Sunday 3 June.

Information from Kingston's Tours 053 581214

MEMBERS NIGHT

The second of March was members night, and a very good evening it was, with many slides showing the many and varied pursuits of our members.

Florence showed the S.G.A.P. excursions with some lovely natural gardens, koalas, Broken Falls, Zumsteins, the sunrise on the Nullabor, then sunset, also Quokkas, and many others.

Frank's slides were from Coff's Harbour Dorriggo Falls, Port Lincoln S.A., Port McDonald boat trip, shy albatross, crested terns, Bascome Well, and Conservation Park with some magnificent views.

Lyndsay showed slides of orchids, and how a small wasp pollinates the flying duck orchid (CALEANA major) and of Tasmania fauna showing the difference between them and their counterparts on the mainland, and the Murphy watchers?

Jean showed Lamington National Park, O'Rileys, the scenery including falls and fig tree, Regent bower Bird, bush turkey, and a large snail, also a Paddy-melon, possum, and a tigercat, all very tame as were the birds at the camping ground. There was also a good slide of Jean cooling her feet !

Harvey spoke on the family GOOD-ENIACA^E which includes Dampieri, Leschenaultia^A, (Leschenault De La Tour), and Goodia (Goodenough-Pres. Royal Soc.)

Velia and scaevala are two other members of the family. There are five members of this family mentioned in the Ballarat area;

Harvey suggested that we have this for a project.

Ken showed many slides of the Australian Alps, Clover Reservoir, Mt. Buller, Buchland Valley, Healsville Badgers Creek, Maroondah Dam, Grampians, Creswick, and many birds that live in those areas.

Members nights are always enjoyable and this one was no exception.

Lyndsay Fink

ENFIELD EXCURSION

Last Excursion some 14 members ventured into the "wilds" of Enfield just to call at the recreation hut area, during a short walk into the new burnt area about 10 yellow tailed black cockatoos were disturbed from a large pine tree where they had been feeding. Hyacinth orchids were out, and some small birds, mainly honey eaters.

Returning to the area (burnt Spring 1983) note was taken of the openness of the area. Some areas, had been used for gravel removal and it was pleasing to see the amount of regeneration taking place on these areas. GREVILLEA illicifolia Var. Enfieldii was plentiful as were the March flies but kept at bay by the aerogard.

Four black ducks were disturbed at the dredge hole and circled overhead for some time. Helen Burgess led the group toward Illabarrook to view a noble Snow gum and a very big rough barked Manna gum, two of the many trees entered in the Noble Tree competition.—The rough barked Manna gum winning a prize for

Jack Netherway.

From there, tracks were made through Berringa and back to Ballarat after a very enjoyable and relaxing expedition.

Peter Fry.

OFFICE BEARERS FOR 1984-85

At the annual meeting the following members were elected to fill the vacancies within the committee

President- Miss Helen Burgess

Hon. Secretary- Miss Joanne Binns

Treasurer- Miss Florence Williamson

Committee- Mr. Greg Binns

Mr. Lyndsay Fink

Mrs. Greta Manguss

Mrs. Jean Spicer

Miss Gail Spicer

The president observed that it was gratifying to welcome two young members to the committee in the persons of Joanne and Gail.

NEW PUBLICATION

EUCALYPTS OF THE BENDIGO DISTRICT - A Guide to Identification and Distribution.

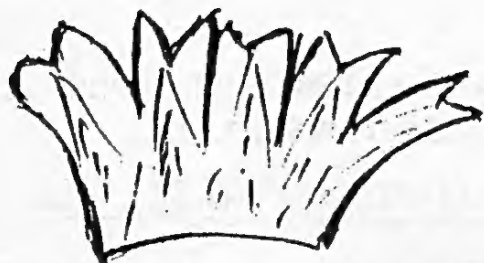
Don Franklin, John Lindner and John Robinson have prepared this excellent guide which covers trees which extend into the Ballarat area. Illustrations are by Leon Costermans. The book is published by and is available from the Bendigo F.N.C. (P.O. Box 396, Bendigo 3550). Price is \$2.50 - good value.

G.W.B.

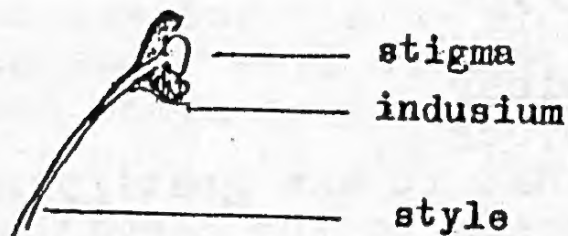
GOODENICEAE

A family (mostly Australian) with six genera.

A common genus around Ballarat is Goodenia.



corolla tube spread out



Major features of the flower:

Petals are united at the base to form a corolla tube-- at the top there are three lobes on one side and two lobes on the other side. The flower has a lopsided appearance.

The ovary is inferior.

The style ends in a knob-like stigma, surrounded by a cup shaped hood known as an indusium.

Corolla tube is often yellow.

H. Hooper

WATERFOWL AND WETLANDS R.A.O.U. SCIENTIFIC DAY

FRIDAY 25th MAY ..

Wetlands vary in size, permanence, type and diversity of habits. Over 150 Australian bird species routinely use wetlands for feeding, breeding, or as resting or refuge sites. The modification and disappearance of wetlands,

particular in coastal regions and in areas of intensive agriculture, should concern all sections of the community. The programme takes the form of brief reports, with time for discussion, on the processes involved in the formation and maintenance of wetlands, wetland surveys, individual waterbird species, and the evaluation of wetlands for conservation.

followed by....

EXCURSION with Geelong Field Naturalists Club.

SATURDAY 26th MAY

9.30 M.M.B.W. Farm, Werribee, including Lake Borrie and Murtcaim Wildlife Area, noted for waterfowl and waders, and, in winter, Orange-bellied Parrots.

15.00 Serendip Wildlife Research Station, Lara, which breeds Brolgas, Magpie Geese, Cape Barren Geese, as well as other ducks and Bustards

18.00 Barbecue at Serendip

Excursion requires cut lunch, \$2 or b.y.o. Barbeque is b.t.o. everything except firewood. Food (but not liquor) can be provided for \$4 if ordered in advance.

Arrangements will be made to visit Swan Island to see Orange-bellied Parrots (more reliably than at Werribee) early on Saturday morning.

For Further Information please contact

The R.A.O.U.
21 Gladstone Street,
Moonee Ponds,
Victoria 3039

Phone: (03) 370 1272

